

# The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-Ninth Year.—No. 34.

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25th, 1954

Eight Home Print Pages—Six Cents

## SURPRISE MOVE POSTPONES HEARING

### Annexation Bid by Town Is Cut, 1597 Acres to 566

Spectators were startled and Esqueping township representatives were virtually taken by surprise at Tuesday morning's scheduled annexation hearing when it was disclosed by Acton's legal counsel that the municipality has amended its 1597-acre annexation bid to a proposed 566 acres. This revelation later had the effect of postponing the hearing to an indefinite date.

### High School Board Adopt New Budget

North Halton High School District Board's 1954 budget, showing an increase of \$12,800 over 1953's total, was adopted at the regular meeting Monday when all members were present except Messrs. Beaumont and Dills.

Tabled at this week's meeting, a total of \$76,833.96 is to be raised by taxation to meet the year's expenditures. Total school expenditures were estimated at \$175,800, while government grants will roughly be more or less than the difference of these two figures.

It was pointed out that the \$12,800 total increase, salary increases account for \$8,500 of this figure. Maintenance total is \$47,000, while debentures will require \$29,433.96.

Earlier in the meeting, regular accounts were passed for \$14,575.23. Four sewing machines were ordered for the Georgetown home economics room at a cost of \$507.10.

The secretary was instructed to advertise for a commercial teacher at Acton to replace Mrs. R. Hess. W. H. Brown is engaged to teach part-time at the Acton school shop.

Firms have been requested to submit prices on drapes for the new high school. These will be reviewed at the March meeting.

Trustees decided to purchase a lot at Milton for \$1,000. Acquisition of this property will have the effect of straightening the present school boundary and, it was pointed out, will provide storage space for agricultural equipment.

The secretary was instructed to request towns in the high school district to arrange for transfer of debenture proceeds to the Board's account in order that future payments to the contractor and for equipment might be readily met.

### Esqueping Adjustment

Esqueping counsel L. Dale rose to comment on this announcement, directing his words to the present Municipal Board officers, W. J. Moore and R. C. Rowland.

Mr. Dale remarked the changes took him and his client "entirely by surprise." Preparation of evidence and assessment figures, he stated, had been done on basis of the original application inclusions. "However, this changes things altogether," he emphasized and explained that in light of the amended proposal, Esqueping could not properly present its case.

Mr. Dale requested an adjournment in order to prepare new evidence and assessment figures based on the revised annexation proposal. He noted some disappointment in not being made aware of the changes made by the town, and stated that about 60 landowners had been called to appear at this hearing.

### Need New Application

Mr. Lucas earlier explained, "I am sorry it was not within my power to tell Mr. Dale in a reasonable time of the changes." He again referred to the Bronte decision and the stipulations of the Municipal Act regarding the necessary proportions of population to acreage.

Mr. Moore observed he understood Mr. Dale's embarrassment, yet at the same time realized Mr. Lucas' position. Mr. Moore, after consultation with Mr. Rowland, ordered that the hearing be adjourned sine die and a new application be made.

Under the proposals of the annexation amendment, which reduces the acreage bid of 1597 to 566, the entire western parcel is dropped.

Also eliminated from the original proposal is a large part of the eastern section. In this area, the new boundary proposals would take in only 50 acres north of the highway and east of the bid line to the Acton Jersey Dairy property. South of the highway the new area would encompass 100 acres and include R. N. Brown's property.

### Case of Amendment

Smaller areas have been severed from the southern annexation land proposals.

In the extreme northern part, the new boundary generally would cut out the farm pond and A. Hufnagel property from a previously proposed annexation parcel, as well as effect smaller area exclusions.

Under the Municipal Act, a municipality may only annex 500 acres for the first 1,000 population then 200 acres for each additional 1,000 or fraction thereof. The Bronte application it was learned, was turned down because the proposal transgressed this interpretation of the Act.

Saturday Councillor Lucas met with members of Acton council to point out the town's position where this part of the Act applies, and how a decision similar to the Bronte ruling could result if the original application were not amended.

Monday night council met and, following Mr. Lucas' advice, set the new boundaries which reduce the annexation acreage to a size compatible with the regulations of the Act.

### H.S. Parents Form New Association

About 35 families were represented when the High School Parents' Association was formed last Thursday evening at a meeting of interested parents in the town hall. It was decided the association would meet regularly once a month and a committee was named to prepare a slate of officers for the next meeting.

Dick Bean was in the chair for the meeting and Joe Hurst acted as secretary.

The nominating committee is Ed Footitt, Mrs. K. Dawkins of Acton and Art Benton of Linsheaven.

### First Night Audience Praises Singing, Dancing and Costumes of 'Snow White'

"Once upon a time there lived a princess whose name was Snow-White and there was born to her and the King a child whom they named Snow-White..." The full auditorium at Acton public school last night was reminded of the world of make-believe as the audience heard Don Lindsay introduce the annual opera by reading the story of Snow-White and the Seven Dwarfs.

The crowd of parents, friends, fellow pupils and visitors from out-of-town found the atmosphere set for musical fantasy as the story concluded with the familiar words, "The royal pair bestowed favors on the Forest Folk, and, in the castle of the Prince's domain, they lived happily ever after."

Imaginative Costumes  
The curtains opened and the story began, with Mrs. C. Heard accompanying the songs and dances on the piano. As well as the main characters, many youngsters took part in the opera in special costumes, such as the pleasing minut by the kindergarten pupils and dance by grade one pupils.

Imaginative costumes, made by a group of mothers and staff under the direction of Miss Dena Braida, varied from a rabbit to flowers. In full-cast numbers, the stage was made-up and D. Price in charge of stage scenery.

Mrs. Heard directed the performance, with Mrs. Franklin as stage director. Following the opera on Wednesday evening, Ena Waller, called Mrs. Franklin to the platform, where Beverly Price presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

Musical Curtain Cast  
The many appreciative comments after the last curtain proved hours of planning, preparing and practice well worthwhile. The young pupils showed excellent stage presence as well as well-trained singing voices.

Heading the cast were Snow-White, Fairy, Sagitt, Queen, Wicked, Teresa Arbie, King, Jim Wahman, Frosty, Fite, Brock Robinson, court doctor, Bob Jones, Nibbles, Betty Bean, Nutty, Mary Jane Force, Queen Tiger Lily, Helen Branciewicz, magic mirror, Jane Mason, woodsman, Bob Parker, Aurora, Ruth Landsborough, White-Wings, John Pasma, Prince Edward Melody in quaint costumes, some with beards and false noses, the seven dwarfs were Bill Johnson, Terry Massey, Keith Andrews, Bruce Andrews, Bill Dawkins, Jeffrey Fayer, and Joe Hurst.

The cast, both last night and tonight, slightly curtailed by missing

### Change Groupings For Music Awards

A change in the annual music awards was agreed upon by members of the Acton Music Study group at their February meeting, held last Monday evening at the home of Mrs. C. Heller. Prizes given to Acton boys and girls who receive highest marks in February or June music examinations will this year be as follows: standing first, grades one to four inclusive, five dollars; first, grades five and six, five dollars; first, grades seven and eight, ten dollars.

In previous years, for purposes of the award, music pupils were divided into two classes only, primary and advanced.

Descriptive music was the topic of the evening's program. One of the earliest composers of music which described an object or mood, rather than accompanied the human voice, was Byrd. Several of his compositions, including Dream, March and Toss were played on the piano. Technical facility developed later.

Mrs. A. Buchanan, speaking to the meeting, pointed out Liszt's skill and facility at mood music and Mendelssohn's lyricism in composition.

Records were used to illustrate various kinds of descriptive music. "Manhattan Tower" illustrated musical instruments imitating city sounds, in "Seven Dreams" the music told a story. A scene was described musically in "Mosquito Parade" "To a Wild Rose", played on the piano, suggested a mood.

The president, Mrs. R. Arnold, who is in charge of the meeting, which concluded with refreshments.

### Raps Divorce Laws, Accounts of Crimes

Fifty-five members of St. Joseph's Holy Name Society gathered in the church hall following Holy Mass last Sunday to enjoy a Communion breakfast which was served by the ladies of the Catholic Women's League.

Following breakfast, president Ernie Marks expressed the appreciation of the officers to all who attended and introduced two out-of-town visitors, Maurice Nichols of Toronto and John Reher of Chicago.

Norma Braida introduced Rev. Walter Weller, president of the Holy Name Society of Sacred Heart parish of Guelph as guest speaker.

Mr. Weller, in his enlightening address, held his audience through the daily press his becoming a day-by-day record of crime, violence and a variety of the magazine sad but a school for crime and immorality. He pointed out that the national expenditure of police to suppress crime and to maintain penal institutions has exceeded the total cost of education.

He also cited the fact that due to relaxed divorce laws the incidence of divorce has increased at an alarming rate, thus dealing a crippling blow to our entire social structure. In closing he suggested means by which every Christian layman can help in the struggle to combat the blight of social ills which is sweeping our nation.

Norman Braida, in thanking the speaker, expressed the appreciation of every member present.

### Smoldering Couch Alarms Neighbors

An early morning fire alarm proved not serious Saturday morning when a fire in a couch caused smoke to fill a double house on Guelph St. James Gibson was alone in his home when fire in the couch scorched a wall, and caused smoke to alarm those in the other section of the building.

The alarm was turned in about 5:45 a.m. Firemen removed the smoldering couch from the house.

### SNOW WHITE AND THE Seven Dwarfs, this year's opera presented by pupils of Acton Public School, was staged before a large, appreciative audience Wednesday night in the school auditorium. Second performance of the delightful opera will be tonight (Thursday). Cast of "Snow White" is shown in this photograph, taken during the Tuesday afternoon performance for school pupils.

### Award Medal of Merit to Scoutmaster For Outstanding Service to Scouting

David R. Dills, Scoutmaster of the 1st Acton Troop, was this week included in the honors list announced by chief scout, Governor-General Vincent Massey. The Acton Scoutmaster has been awarded the Medal of Merit for outstanding service to Canadian Scouting, and particularly for his work and leadership with the Scouts here.

Monday night group committee chairman T. Watson read the announcement of the award before members of the local troop. Group Leader G. Clow presented the uniform emblem of the medal to Scoutmaster Dills. Formal award of the medal will be made at a later date.

Mr. Watson, in his congratulatory address, noted the record of service and achievement which had brought the honor to the local Scoutmaster. He emphasized that through the years Scoutmaster Dills was inclined to regard the work he was doing as unimportant. Scoutmaster Dills, Mr. Watson said, was too modest about his outstanding service.

David R. Dills joined the 1st Acton Troop as a tenderfoot scout in 1938. At 14 he was a 1st Class Scout and at 15 a King's Scout. After service in the Canadian navy he resumed his post in 1946 as assistant scoutmaster. In 1951 he became Scoutmaster.

### Organized Firefighters The Blue Springs Scout Reserve, four miles west of Acton, was purchased by the Provincial Council for Ontario in 1937. It was in the care, protection and support of this reserve over the years that David Dills, as a Ranger Scout, was recognized as an outstanding leader.

In 1946 he organized a firefighting group to combat a bush fire surrounding Blue Springs. When buildings were broken into at the Reserve last year, the Scoutmaster worked with police to apprehend the intruders.

Recognition of the services rendered to Acton scouting by Scoutmaster Dills is not solely on the basis of his work at Blue Springs, where in 1951 the all-Canada Rover Moot was held. "For This Moot he supervised production of a daily newspaper to serve the Scouts."

Citizens of Acton have recognized Dave Dills' service to boyhood by providing money material and labor to build the Scout hall which is now the headquarters of the local Scouts Club, Girl Guides and Brownies.

### Gather in Church On Day of Prayer

"The Lord gave the word; the women that published the tidings were a great host." (Psalm 68). These words, written over 2,000 years ago, have been brought to life today by the women's Inter-Church Council of Canada.

This council, formed over thirty years ago, had as its goal a world federation of church women of Protestant communions, bound together by an interdenominational day of prayer.

The first of these services was held on the first Friday of Lent, 1920. In 1922 the Canadian group joined the church women of the United States and the first international day of prayer was held.

Last year, well over 100 countries celebrated this year-round bond among Christian women of the world.

This year, World Day of Prayer is being observed in Acton at a service in the United Church, on March 5 at 2:30 p.m.

### B.Y.P.U. Bowlers Now in Semi-Finals

Georgetown defeated Acton here Tuesday evening in the play-offs of the Baptist Young Peoples' bowling league. The contests were postponed from the stormy Tuesday of the week before.

Acton's team of six bowled 2568 points, and Georgetown's 2847 points. Hillsburgh obtained 2625 points and Cheltenham senior team 2582. Eliminated from the semi-finals were Belfountain with 2567 and Cheltenham juniors with 2161.

Semi-finals will be played in Acton next Tuesday.

Bowling for the Acton Baptist group were Doug Dunk, Bob Landsborough, Warren Wagner, L. Wagner, Helen Bulmer and John Chapman. Captain is Jesse Coles. Other bowlers played with the local team during the season, which began last October. The team play once a week in Acton.

Lunch was served the bowlers at the bowling alley.

### WINNER OF THE MEDAL of Merit for outstanding service to Canadian Scouting and, particularly, to the 1st Acton Troop, Scoutmaster David Dills is shown here reading the notification of his award. Announcement of the award was made this week by the Chief Scout, Governor-General Vincent Massey. Proud of the honor bestowed on their Scoutmaster are, left to right, Scouts Ted Jennings and Bill Johnson and Patrol Leader Wayne Currie. Formal presentation of the medal will be made at a later date.

### Broomball Battle Highlights Skating Carnival in Arena

See Pictures on Pages 4 and 5

An exhibition of broomball between Acton's two service clubs highlighted the old time skating carnival sponsored by the Acton Minor Sports Association in the arena here last Friday night.

The event also featured minor hockey games, skating races, costume contests, clowns and a moccasin dance. Proceeds were in aid of minor sport in Acton.

The Y's Men and the Rotary club convulsed the audience with their antics on the ice as the Y's Men eked out a 2-1 win in the broomball battle. Led by Garnet McKenzie in a faded kilt handed down from the battle of Bannockburn, the Y's Men's weird costumes mesmerized the Rotarians who appeared in identical sweaters with a 14 foot broom.

Wilson put the Y's guys ahead on a pass from Don Timmings early in the game and it wasn't until Al Kirkness talked Jock Calder out of the nets that the Rotary machine scored. Kirkness from Goy. Goy had difficulty removing the stump of a cigar from his mouth in the excitement. The linesmen imposed two penalties but had to drag the reluctant offenders to the sin bin by the heels. In the ensuing confusion the Y's Men scored again and someone on the timer's bench with a Y card announced the game was over while the winners were still ahead.

Races Run in Heats  
There were so many entries in the boys skating races they had to be run in heats. Boys under 12 winners were Terry Wilson, Ross Swackhamer, John Hoare and Brian Otterbein. In the under 14 years class Don Wilds and Bob Coxie staged a thrilling race to carry off the honors in that order while Edward Melodie won the 14 years and over class.

Ruth Landsborough, Pauline Marks and Teresa Arbie finished in that order in the girls' under 12 race and Ruth Landsborough also finished first in the 14 years and under class in a field of two.

A variety of costumes were judged and the judges awarded prizes to Addie Deserault, Mrs. Harold Elliott and Ruth Landsborough. Prizes were donated by Mrs. Mildred Bell, Bob Ridsdale, Sid Eisen, Bert Hinton and Mac Symon.

Acton Citizens' Band under the direction of Bandmaster A. Perrott, contributed music for the skating and other events. President of the Minor Sports Association, Vic Masters, gave an address of welcome.

### Marathon Euchre Held By Hall Board

Winners in Wednesday evening's Hall Board marathon euchre were Archie McDonald and Miss Lois Mileham, and seconds went to Wellington Stringer and Mrs. C. Meredith. Mrs. C. Jones and Robert McEnery held most lone hands.

We extend sympathy to the family of the late Mrs. Arthur Ivens, formerly Katie Sharpe of Limehouse, who passed away in Toronto on Friday.

Mrs. McDonald of Parry Sound was a Saturday visitor with Mrs. Ed Findlay.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Karn and family of London Mr. Wm. Karn, Mrs. Munro, Mr. Robert Shaw, all of Inglewood and Mr. Carl Karn of Detroit with the Karn's here on Sunday.

P.C. and Mrs. Calvin Van Zant of Port Credit with the Merediths a week ago.

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### Mother, Daughter Banquet Held at Y

The third annual Mother and Daughter banquet, sponsored by the Y.M.C.A. Ladies' Auxiliary was held at Acton Y.M.C.A. Wednesday, February 11. A large gathering of girls and their mothers sat down to a full course turkey dinner prepared by the "Y" Auxiliary and served by members of the Y's Men's club.

Mrs. D. F. Wilds acted as chair-lady and president Mrs. J. Hurst welcomed the guests. The head table was introduced by Mrs. H. De Forest and Mrs. G. W. McKenzie gave the welcome from the Y.M.C.A.

Sheila Paul gave the toast to the mothers and Mrs. Jany replied with a toast to the daughters. A delightful sing song followed with Mrs. R. E. Price leading and Mrs. F. Oakes at the piano.

The entertainment for the evening consisted of a piano duet by Helen and Ruth Landsborough, a vocal solo by Blair Hotchen and an accordion solo by Fay Garner.

Mrs. S. Sinclair introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. R. Hoey Alder, who is Halton Division Commissioner of Girl Guides. She gave a talk on "Guiding in other Lands," which was thoroughly enjoyed by both mothers and girls.

Margaret Price presented Mrs. Hoey with a bouquet of daffodils and Mrs. Wilds thanked her on behalf of the "Y" Auxiliary.



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